

Table C-1. WATER QUALITY CRITERIA - INORGANIC CONSTITUENTS

Inorganic Constituent	BASIN PLAN				Drinking Water Standards (California & Federal) Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs)		
	Ocean Waters (1) "‡" = carcinogen	Bays and Estuaries	Inland Surface Waters	Ground Water	California Dept. of Health Services		USEPA Primary MCL
					Primary MCL	Secondary MCL	
Ammonia	600 (2)	NH ₃ not > 0.025 mg/l	NH ₃ not > 0.025 mg/l				
Antimony	1,200						6 (8)
Arsenic	8				50		50
Beryllium	0.033 ‡						4 (8)
Boron			0.5 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-1	0.5 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-2			
Bromide							
Cadmium	1				10		5
Chloride			250 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-1	60 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-2		250,000 (7)	
Chlorine	2 (3)						
Chromium (III)	190,000						
Chromium (VI)	2 (4)						
Chromium (total)	2 (4)				50		100
Color			20 units or as noted in Table 3-1	15 units or as noted in Table 3-2		15 units	
Copper	3					1,000	1,300 (9)
Cyanide	1						200 (8)
Fluoride			1.0 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-1	1.0 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-2	1,400 to 2,400 (5)		4,000
Iron			0.3 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-1	0.3 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-2		300	
Lead	2				50		15 (9)
Manganese			0.05 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-1	0.05 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-2		50	
Mercury (inorganic)	0.04				2		2
Nickel	5						100 (8)
Nitrate			5 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-1	5 mg/l or as noted in Table 3-2	45,000 (6)		10,000 (10)
Oxygen, dissolved	Shall not be depressed > 10%	Shall not be less than 5.0 mg/l with designated MAR. The annual mean DO shall not be less than 7 mg/l more than 10% of the time.	Shall not be less than 5.0 mg/l in inland surface waters with WARM or less than 6.0 mg/l in waters with COLD beneficial use. The annual mean D.O. conc. shall not be less than 7 mg/l more than 10% of the time.				

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					Primary MCL	Secondary MCL	
pH	Shall not be +/- 0.2 units of natural pH	Shall not be depressed below 7.0; nor raised above 9.0. Changes in normal ambient pH shall not exceed 0.2 units.	Shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5. Changes in normal ambient pH levels shall not exceed 0.5 units in fresh waters with designated COLD or WARM beneficial uses.				
Phosphorus			Shall not exceed 0.05 mg/l in any stream at the point where it enters any standing body of water, nor 0.025 mg/l in any standing body of water; for flowing waters, shall not exceed 0.1 mg/l total P. These values not to be exceeded more than 10% of the time.				
Radioactivity, Gross Alpha					15 pCi/l		15 pCi/l (12)
Radioactivity, Gross Beta					50 pCi/l		4 mrem/yr
Radium 226 + 228					5 pCi/l		5 pCi/l / 20 pCi/l (13)
Selenium	15				10		50
Settleable solids			Shall not contain suspended and settleable solids in concentrations that result in the deposition of solids that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.				
Silver	0.7				50		100
Sodium			60% Na; or as noted in Table 3-1	60% Na; or as noted in Table 3-2			
Strontium-90					8 pCi/l		
Sulfate			65 mg/l; or as noted in Table 3-1	60 mg/l; or as noted in Table 3-2		250,000 (7)	400,000 - 500,000 (13)
Total dissolved solids (TDS)			300 mg/l; or as noted in Table 3-1	350 mg/l; or as noted in Table 3-2		500,000 (11)	
Thallium	14						2 (8)
Tritium					20,000 pCi/l		
Turbidity		Shall not be less than 50% of the depth at locations where measurement is made by means of a standard Secchi disk, or as noted in Chapter 3 page 30.	20 NTU; or as noted in Table 3-1. Waters shall be free of changes in turbidity that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.	5 NTU; or as noted in Table 3-2. Waters shall be free of changes in turbidity that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.		5 units	1 to 5 units
Uranium					20 pCi/l		20 µg/l = 30 pCi/l (13)
Zinc	20					5,000	

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Inorganic Constituent	Drinking Water Standards (Federal) Maximum Contaminant Levels		California Recommended Public Health Level (RPHL) Department of Health Services	Health Advisories or Suggested No-Adverse-Response Levels (SNARLs) for toxicity other than cancer risk		US EPA Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Reference Dose as a Water Quality Criterion (16)	One-in-a-Million Incremental Cancer Risk Estimates for Drinking Water			California Proposition 65 Regulatory Level as a Water Quality Criterion (19)	Agricultural Water Quality Goals (21)
	USEPA			USEPA	National Academy of Sciences (NAS)		Cal/EPA Cancer Potency Factor as a Water Quality Criterion (17)	USEPA Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS)	USEPA Health Advisory or SNARL		
	Secondary MCL	MCL Goal									
Ammonia				30,000 (14)					(D)		
Antimony		6 (8)		3		2.8			(D)		
Arsenic							0.02	0.02 (A,14)	5		100
Beryllium		4 (8)		4,000 / 20,000 (7-yr,14,15)			0.008	0.008 (B,14)	(18)		100
Boron				600 (14)		630			(D)		750 (22) /700
Bromide					2,300						
Cadmium		5		5	5	3.5	(18)		(D)	(18)	10
Chloride	250,000										106,000
Chlorine						1,050			(D)		
Chromium (III)											
Chromium (VI)							0.083		(A)	(18)	100
Chromium (total)		100		100		35			(D)		
Color	15 units										
Copper	1,000	1,300							(D)		200
Cyanide		200 (8)		200		150			(D)		
Fluoride	2,000	4,000				840			(D)		1,000
Iron	300										5,000
Lead		zero							(B)	0.25 (20)	5,000
Manganese	50					980					200
Mercury (inorganic)		2	2 (13)	2		2.1			(D)		
Nickel		100 (8)		100		140	(18)		(D)	(18)	200
Nitrate		10,000 (2)		10,000 (2)		11,000 (2)			(D)		
Oxygen, dissolved											

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	USEPA			USEPA	National Academy of Sciences (NAS)		Cal/EPA Cancer Potency Factor as a Water Quality Criterion (17)	USEPA Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS)	USEPA Health Advisory or SNARL		
	Secondary MCL	MCL Goal									
pH	6.5 to 8.5 unts										
Phosphorus				0.1 (23)					(D)		
Radioactivity, Gross Alpha		zero							(A)		
Radioactivity, Gross Beta		zero							0.04 mrem/yr (A,14)		
Radium 226 + 228		zero (13)							0.22-0.26 pCi/l (A,14)		
Selenium		50				35					20
Settleable solids											
Silver				100 (14)		35			(D)		
Sodium				2,000 (24)							
Strontium-90									(A)		
Sulfate	250,000	400,000 - 500,000 (13)									
Total dissolved solids (TDS)	500,000										450,000
Thallium		0.5 (8)		0.4		0.5					
Tritium									(A)		
Turbidity											
Uranium		zero (13)			35				1.7 pCi/l (A)		
Zinc	5,000			2,000		2,100			(D)		2,000

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Inorganic Constituent	USEPA National Ambient Water Quality Criteria									
	Health and Welfare Protection			Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection						
	Non-Cancer Public Health Effects	One-in-a-Million Incremental Cancer Risk Estimate	Taste & Odor or Welfare	Recommended Criteria				Additional Toxicity Information		
				Continuous Concentration (4-day Average)	24-hour Average	Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average)	Maximum (Instantaneous)	Acute	Chronic	Other
Ammonia				(26)		(26)				
Antimony	14 / 4300 (25)			30 (13,27)		88 (13,27)		9,000	1,600	610 (42)
Arsenic		0.018 / 0.14 (25)		190 (27)		360 (27)		850 (41)		48 (43)
Beryllium								130	5.3	
Boron										
Bromide										
Cadmium				0.55 (28,29)		1.4 (28,36)				
Chloride	250,000			230,000 (30)		860,000 (30)				
Chlorine				11 (31)		19 (31)				
Chromium (III)				98 (28,32)		820 (28,37)				
Chromium (VI)				11		16				
Chromium (total)										
Color										
Copper			1000	5.4 (28,33)		7.5 (28,38)				
Cyanide	700 / 220,000 (25)			5.2		22				
Fluoride										
Iron			300				1000			
Lead				0.99 (28,34)		25 (28,39)				
Manganese			50							
Mercury (inorganic)	0.14 / 0.15 (25)			0.012		2.4				
Nickel	610 / 4600 (25)			73 (28,35)		653 (28,40)				
Nitrate	10,000 (2)									
Oxygen, dissolved				(22)	(22)					

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Inorganic Constituent	U S E P A National Ambient Water Quality Criteria									
	Health and Welfare Protection			Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection						
	Non-Cancer Public Health Effects	One-in-a-Million Incremental Cancer Risk Estimate	Taste & Odor or Welfare	Recommended Criteria				Additional Toxicity Information		
				Continuous Concentration (4-day Average)	24-hour Average	Maximum Concentration (1-hour Average)	Maximum (Instantaneous)	Acute	Chronic	Other
pH			5 to 9 units				6.5 to 9.0 units			
Phosphorus										
Radioactivity, Gross Alpha										
Radioactivity, Gross Beta										
Radium 226 + 228										
Selenium				5		20				
Settleable solids										
Silver				0.12 (13)		0.84 (28,44)			0.12	
Sodium										
Strontium-90										
Sulfate			250,000							
Total dissolved solids (TDS)										
Thallium	1.7 / 6.3 (25)							1,400	40	20 (46)
Tritium										
Turbidity										
Uranium										
Zinc						54 (28,45)				

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Inorganic Constituent	USEPA National Ambient Water Quality Criteria Saltwater Aquatic Life Protection						California Ocean Plan Numerical Water Quality Objectives					
	Recommended Criteria			Additional Toxicity Information			Human Health Protection (30-day Average) *† = carcinogen	Marine Aquatic Life Protection				
	Continuous Concentration (4-day Average)	Maximum Concentration (1-hour)	Maximum (Instantaneous)	Acute	Chronic	Other		6-month Median	30-day Average	7-day Average	Daily Maximum	Instantaneous Maximum
Ammonia	35 (47)	233 (47)					600 (2)			2,400 (2)	6,000 (2)	
Antimony	500 (13,27)	1,500 (13,27)				1,200						
Arsenic	36 (27)	69 (27)		2,319 (41)		13 (43)	8			32	80	
Beryllium						0.033 †						
Boron												
Bromide												
Cadmium	9.3	43					1			4	10	
Chloride												
Chlorine	7.5 (48)	13 (48)					2 (3)			8 (3)	60 (3)	
Chromium (III)				10,300 (49)			190,000					
Chromium (VI)	50	1,100					2 (4)			8 (4)	20 (4)	
Chromium (total)							2 (4)			8 (4)	20 (4)	
Color												
Copper	2.9	2.9					3			12	30	
Cyanide	1	1					1			4	10	
Fluoride												
Iron												
Lead	5.6	140					2			8	20	
Manganese			100									
Mercury (inorganic)	0.025	2.1					0.04			0.16	0.4	
Nickel	8.3	75					5			20	50	
Nitrate												
Oxygen, dissolved												

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	Recommended Criteria			Additional Toxicity Information			Human Health Protection (30-day Average) *† = carcinogen	Marine Aquatic Life Protection				
	Continuous Concentration (4-day Average)	Maximum Concentration (1-hour)	Maximum (Instantaneous)	Acute	Chronic	Other		6-month Median	30-day Average	7-day Average	Daily Maximum	Instantaneous Maximum
pH			6.5 to 8.5 units									6.0 to 9.0 units
Phosphorus			0.1 (50)									
Radioactivity, Gross Alpha												15 pCi/l (12)
Radioactivity, Gross Beta												50 pCi/l
Radium 226 + 228												5 pCi/l
Selenium	71	300						15			60	150
Settleable solids									1,000	1,500		3,000
Silver	0.92 (13)	2.3						0.7			2.8	7
Sodium												
Strontium-90												8 pCi/l
Sulfate												
Total dissolved solids (TDS)												
Thallium				2,130				14				
Tritium												20,000 pCi/l
Turbidity									75 NTU	100 NTU		225 NTU
Uranium												20 pCi/l
Zinc	86	95						20			80	200

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